
REMARKS:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The above noted amendments to the claims have been made so that the scope and language of the claims is more precise and clear in defining what the Applicants consider to be their invention.

Specifically, claims 1-12 and 23-40 have been indicated as being withdrawn pursuant to the Election of Group II (claims 13-22) in the accompanying paper.

Claim 13 has been amended to make clear that the claimed subject matter is focused on an invert emulsion drilling fluid having an oleaginous continuous phase and a non-oleaginous discontinuous phase.

Claim 22 has been amended to more specifically recited the chemical nature of a preferred and illustrative embodiment of the claimed subject matter.

Applicants submit that no new matter is introduced by the proposed amendments to the claims. Support for the above amendments to the claims can be found in the original specification as filed.

The claims and amended claims are submitted as being clearly distinct and patentable over the art of record and therefore Applicants request their entry and allowance by the Examiner.

The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2508, referencing Order No. 11836.0700.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner should directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.



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Applicant: Monfreux- Gaillard, Nathalie et al.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carter J. White".

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